

Response Under 37 CFR 1.116

Expedited Procedure

Examining Group 3721

Application No. 10/520,673

Paper Dated: January 22, 2008

In Reply to USPTO Correspondence of January 15, 2008

Attorney Docket No. 3988-045995

REMARKS

The Advisory Action of January 15, 2008 has been reviewed and the Examiner's comments carefully considered. Claims 12-16 are currently pending in this application, and claim 12 is in independent form.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner has indicated that he will reconsider the status of the above-referenced patent application if a copy of Taiwanese Patent Application No. 92118741, along with a copy of its translation is submitted. Accordingly, the Applicants submit herewith a copy of this application along with an English-language translation of its abstract. Also submitted herewith is a copy of the excerpt from the Taiwanese Patent Gazette publishing this application.

Taiwanese Patent Application No. 92118741, which matured into a Taiwanese patent on July 1, 2007, corresponds to the above-identified application. The specification of this Taiwanese application appears to be translated from the above-identified application. As discussed in the Request for Reconsideration filed December 19, 2007, the Republic of China counted years as Years of the Republic beginning in 1912. Therefore, the year 1912 is the 1st Year of the Republic, 1949 is the 38th and 2006 is the 95th. Although China abandoned this system, it is still used for official purposes in Taiwan. Accordingly, this Taiwanese Patent Application does not constitute prior art under any section of 35 U.S.C. §102.

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Based on the foregoing remarks, allowance of pending claims 12-16 is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any questions, or wish to discuss the application in further detail, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative by telephone at 412-471-8815.

Respectfully submitted,

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